

Bill provides funds to protect troops and families, and increases government accountability

Washington, DC - Congressman John Adler released the following statement after voting in favor of the House War Supplemental Appropriations Bill that provides American troops in Iraq and Afghanistan with safety equipment, training, and increased health benefits.

"Our military men and women must have the resources to successfully complete their missions in Iraq and Afghanistan," said Congressman Adler, whose district includes Fort Dix, McGuire Air Force Base and Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Station. "Congress and the American people must keep faith with the brave men and women in uniform who keep us safe."

This bill provides our troops with greater safety equipment and training programs, and also increases funding for healthcare services for troops and their families. It is critical that our military men and women have all the tools and resources necessary to successfully complete their missions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The House Supplemental:

- Provides our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan with necessary funds for increased safety precautions. For example, it provides needed equipment - including providing \$2.2 billion more than requested for Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles to protect our troops.
- Directs \$734 million to retroactively provide servicemembers and veterans \$500 for every month they served under stop-loss orders since 2001.
- Increases government accountability by requiring the President, by February 2010, to report to Congress on an assessment of the performance of the Afghan and Pakistani governments in five key areas.
- Supports the idea of removing combat troops from Iraq at the guidance of military leaders.

- Directs funds to fight terrorism in Afghanistan and Pakistan.